

Message Text

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ACTION ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 AID-05 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-08
FRB-03 INR-10 NSAE-00 USIA-06 TRSE-00 XMB-02
OPIC-03 SP-02 LAB-04 SIL-01 OMB-01 NSC-05 SS-15
STR-07 CEA-01 PA-01 /101 W
-----060788 180550Z /13

R 161512Z FEB 78
FM AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2084
INFO AMEMBASSY GEORGETOWN
AMEMBASSY PARAMARIBO
AMEMBASSY PORT OF SPAIN
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
AMEMBASSY PARIS

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE THE HAGUE 0823

RUSSELS FOR USEEC

PARIS FOR USOECD

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: EAID, NL, NL, NE
SUBJ: DEVELOPMENT MINISTER CRITICIZES SURINAM AID COMMITTEE

REF: PARAMARIBO 141

1. THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN THE DUTCH AND THE SURINAMESE REPORTED
BY EMBASSY PARAMARIBO SURFACED IN THE DUTCH PRESS ON FEBRUARY 16.
A NEWSPAPER REVEALED THAT DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION MINISTER DE
KONING IN A CONFIDENTIAL NOTE TO THE SECOND CHAMBER AND IN
CLOSED HEARINGS CRITICIZED THE MIED DUTCH-SURINAMESE DEVELOPMENT
COOPERATION COMMITTEE WHICH RECENTLY BROKE UP ITS NINTH MEETINGS
IN PARAMARIBO IN DISAGREEMENT. DE KONING REPORTEDLY SAID
THE COMMITTEE HAD FUNCTIONED BADLY AND NOT FULFILLED ALL ITS
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TASKS. (THE COMMITTEE COMPOSED OF THREE DUTCH FOREIGN MINISTRY
OFFICIALS AND THREE SURINAMESE, IS REQUIRED TO JUDGE PROJECTS
AND PROGRAMS PROPOSED BY THE SURINAMESE GOVERNMENT BY THE STANDARDS
OF THE MULTI-ANNUAL DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION PROGRAM BETWEEN
THE TWO COUNTRIES.)

2. DE KONING ALSO IS SAID TO HAVE ATTRIBUTED THE COMMITTEE'S

FAILURE TO ITS HAVING DEVOTED TOO MUCH TIME TO POLITICAL DISCUSSION AND TO THE SURINAMESE MEMBERS HAVING GIVEN TOO SUBJECTIVE AN INTERPRETATION TO THE COMMITTEE'S TASKS. THE RELEVANT PROJECT DOCUMENTATION WAS OFTEN INCOMPLETE AND SUBMITTED MUCH LATER THAN HAD BEEN AGREED. MOREOVER, A LARGE NUMBER OF RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE SURINAMESE GOVERNMENT HAD NOT BEEN IMPLEMENTED AT ALL OR ONLY IN PART.

3. DE KONING, WHO IS GOING TO SURINAM IN THE SECOND WEEK OF MARCH, WAS REPORTED TO HAVE SAID FURTHER TALKS WITH THE SURINAMESE GOVERNMENT ARE NECESSARY TO REACH AGREEMENT ON A NUMBER OF POINTS.

4. THE FOREIGN MINISTRY PRESS OFFICE DECLINED TO COMMENT ON THE NEWSPAPER REPORTS, BUT EMBASSY CONTACTS CONFIRM THAT DE KONING IS UNHAPPY WITH THE WAY AID TO SURINAM IS BEING ADMINISTERED.
BROWN

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NNN

Message Attributes

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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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